

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
DISTRICT OF MASSACHUSETTS

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

v.

CRIMINAL NO. 03-10393-MLW

STEVEN VARGAS

Defendant

PROCEDURAL ORDER  
RE: SENTENCING HEARING

WOLF, D.J.

A plea of guilty or nolo contendere, or a verdict of guilty, having been entered on OCTOBER 14, 2004 under the Sentencing Reform Act of 1984, it is hereby **ORDERED**:

Pre-sentence Investigation

1. a) The United States Probation Office shall commence immediately the pre-sentence investigation unless as provided in Fed. R. Crim. Pro. Rule 32(c), the court finds under Rule 32(b)(1)(A) and (B) that the information in the record enables it to exercise its sentencing authority meaningfully under 18 U.S.C. § 3553 and the court explains this finding on the record.  
b) The Probation Office shall prepare pre-sentence investigation reports in the order in which the requests from the court are received.

Statement of Relevant Facts

2. Not later than seven days after the plea or verdict [or on ], the attorney for the government shall provide to the United States Probation Office a statement of relevant facts and any other documents pertinent under Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure 32(b) (4) and shall simultaneously serve on counsel for the defendant a copy of everything provided to the Probation Office.

Interview of Defendant

3. The Probation Office shall provide a reasonable opportunity for defense counsel to attend any interview of the defendant conducted by a probation officer during the pre-sentence investigation.

a) If the case is resolved by a plea, and the Probation Office has timely notification of the plea, it shall hold an interview with the defendant on the day of the plea. If an interview cannot be held on the day of the plea, the Probation Office shall schedule an interview to be held within seven days after the plea or within such additional time as the court may order.

b) If the case is resolved by a verdict, the Probation Office shall schedule an interview with the defendant to be held within seven days after the verdict or within such additional period of time as the court may order.

c) If the defendant is in custody, the United States Marshal shall, at the request of the Probation Office, bring the defendant to the courthouse for an interview at the earliest feasible time.

#### Pretrial Services Responsibility

4. Pretrial Services shall provide to the Probation Office all documents in the possession of Pretrial Services that may be relevant to the pre-sentence investigation, including a copy of the Pretrial Report, the defendant's state, local, and national criminal record, police reports, copies of convictions, drug test results, reports of incidents, and other reports and supporting documents.

#### Date of Sentencing

5. The sentencing hearing (and sentencing) is scheduled to occur at 3:00 PM ON JANUARY 21, 2005, in courtroom #10 on the 5th floor. This date is to be not sooner than ten weeks after the date of the plea/verdict, in order to permit the following:

a) Probation Office shall have **five weeks** after the date of plea/verdict for the preparation and disclosure of the initial report.

b) Probation Office shall disclose the initial report to defense counsel and government counsel **no less than five weeks before the** sentencing hearing, unless the defendant expressly waives the minimum five week pre-sentencing notification period.

c) The date when disclosure has been effected to each attorney is the date of the mailing of a copy to that attorney. An attorney may, in lieu of receiving disclosure by mail, make arrangements with the Probation Office to pick up the report no later than 3:00 p.m. on the date disclosure is due. It is the responsibility of the defense counsel to

disclose the pre-sentence report to the defendant and to discuss it with and explain it to the defendant.

#### **Objections Procedure**

6. **Within fourteen days after disclosure of the report**, attorneys for the government and the defendant shall advise the probation officer and each other in writing, of any objections they may have as to any material information, sentencing classifications, sentencing guideline ranges, or policy statements contained in or omitted from the report.
7. The probation officer shall conduct any further investigation and make any revisions to the pre-sentence report that may be necessary. The probation officer may require counsel for both parties to confer with the probation officer to identify and attempt to resolve any factual or legal disputes which may require hearing by the court.

#### **Final Pre-sentence Report**

8. **Not later than JANUARY 14, 2005 (which is a date not less than seven days before the sentencing hearing)**, the probation officer shall submit to the court and disclose to the attorneys the final pre-sentence report, including any addendum, setting forth the unresolved objections, the grounds for these objections and the probation officer's comments on the objections. The probation officer shall certify that the contents of the report, including any revisions, and the addendum have been disclosed to the defendant and to counsel for the defendant and the government, and that the addendum fairly states any remaining unresolved objections. Except with regard to any unresolved objections, the report of the pre-sentence investigation may be accepted by the court as accurate. The court, however, for good cause shown, may allow a new objection to the pre-sentence report to be raised at any time before the imposition of sentence.

#### **Hearing**

9. The court is to hold a sentencing hearing to resolve any disputed issues.
  - a) In resolving any disputed issues, the court may consider any reliable information presented by the probation officer, the defendant, or the government.

- b) Not less than five business days before the sentencing hearing, counsel are to advise the clerk if counsel for either party contends that an evidentiary hearing is necessary, and shall advise the clerk of the amount of time counsel expects would be required to complete the hearing.
- c) If either counsel wishes to submit a memorandum supporting any recommendations as to a sentence within the guideline range or a departure from the guideline range, including proposed findings of fact and conclusions, he or she must do so not less than three, **or such alternative time as set by the court in paragraph 12**, business days before the sentencing hearing. A copy of any memorandum submitted by counsel **must** also be provided to the probation officer.
10. The schedule set forth in this order may be modified by the court for good cause shown.
11. Disclosure of the pre-sentence report is made under the provisions of Rule 32, Fed.R.Crim.Pro., except that the Probation Office shall not disclose any recommendation it made to the court as to sentence. Any such recommendation made to the court by the Probation Office must not contain factual information not already disclosed to both counsel and to the defendant.
12. If the parties would like to file any motions or other pleadings for the court to consider at sentencing they shall be filed by JANUARY 7, 2005. Any responses shall be filed by JANUARY 14, 2005.

October 15, 2004  
DATE

/s/ MARK L. WOLF  
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

cc: Counsel  
Probation Office  
Pretrial Services

(procosen.ord - 12/95)

[kprocosen.]